

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Amended) A method of making a particulate pearlescent pigment for plastic products, said particulate comprising small hard resin particles of different sizes containing pearlescent reflective flakes which are aligned in each particle with their flat surfaces generally parallel, the method comprising: mixing a binder resin with said pearlescent reflective flakes, solidifying the binder resin in such a way to cause alignment of the flakes with their flat surfaces generally parallel, and converting the resultant solidified binder resin to make said small hard particles of at least two different sizes.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said [[comminuting]] converting is carried out by grinding from a large sheet in which said reflective flakes are oriented.
3. (Previously Amended) The method of making a filed hard surfacing material having an aesthetically pleasing appearance, comprising adding pearlescent pigmented particulate comprising small hard resin particles of different sizes containing pearlescent reflective flakes which are aligned in each particle with their flat surfaces generally parallel in a plastic material as a matrix to form a mix, and then forming and solidifying said mix, said particulate being made by mixing a binder resin with said pearlescent reflective flakes, solidifying the binder resin in such a way to cause alignment of the flakes with their flat surfaces generally parallel, and converting the resultant solidified binder resin to make said small hard particles of at least two different sizes.
4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, comprising further adding raw coated reflective flakes in an amount up to 5% and orientating said flakes substantially parallel to opposite surfaces of said surfacing material.
5. (Previously Amended) A method according to claim 4 wherein the plastic material is a hard polyester or acrylic.
6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim [[5]] 3 wherein the plastic material is a hard polyester or acrylic.